Abstract

Research Paper: The Effect the Postal Crisis Has Had on the Future of Historic Post Office Buildings

Student: Mary Delach

Degree: Masters of Science in Historic Preservation

College: College of Architecture and Planning

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This study examines the affects that the postal crisis has had on historic post office buildings. The twenty-first century has brought about a number of challenges for the United States Postal Service. The significance of the institution is undeniable. If it were not for the postal service the country would have developed in an entirely different manner.

In contemporary times the need for the postal service is waning. There are privatized mail courier services and technology that do the job more quickly and sometimes more efficiently. It is necessary to find ways to encourage the preservation of these buildings, and perhaps the best method of preservation is through adaptive reuse. This is something that has been done in the past, and it is something that must continue in order to appropriately preserve these post offices. The significance of these buildings is irrefutable; as is the effect that the technological era has had on the buildings. However, with a responsible approach to rehabilitation, these buildings can survive and be enjoyed for years to come.